

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 05050 281641Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 /090 W  
-----126859 281650Z /42

O P 281630Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2313  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 5050

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, UNSC, WA, SF, ZA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SADF INCURSION INTO ZAMBIA  
  
REF: LUSAKA 3014

1. REFTEL ARRIVED SOON AFTER BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT TOLD ME HE HAD SIMILAR CABLE FROM UK HICOM LUSAKA. AFTER COMPARING NOTES WE AGREED HE SHOULD SEE FOURIE THIS AFTERNOON AND SHOW HIM THE BRITISH REPORT AND MENTION THAT I HAD SIMILAR ONE INDICATING THAT SOME FIGHTING WAS STILL GOING ON SUNDAY.

2. SCOTT HAS JUST FILLED ME IN ON FOURIE'S REACTION. HE SAID FOURIE GROANED WHEN HE READ THE REPORT, THEN SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES ARE ALL OUT.  
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HE SAID THE SADF WOULD SIMPLY ASK WHETHER HE DOUBTED THEIR WORD IF HE WENT TO THEM WITH CHONA'S LATEST REPORT, BUT AGREED THAT HE WOULD USE AN INQUIRY INTO THE STATUS OF THE TWO ZAMBIAN BUSES AND THEIR PASSENGERS AS A MEANS OF FERRETING OUT WHETHER THERE WERE BY CHANCE ANY SADF FORCES STILL IN OR NEAR THE AREA. HE PROMISED TO GET BACK TO SCOTT WHO WILL SHARE THE RE-

PONSE WITH ME AND OTHER COLLEAGUES OF THE FIVE.

3. SCOTT NOTED THAT THE VILLAGES IN QUESTION ARE VERY CLOSE TO THE ANGOLAN BORDER, WHERE THERE IS A LOT OF COMING AND GOING, AND SPECULATED THAT IT WAS CONCEIVABLE EVEN THAT SOME UNITA FORCES COULD HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES OF THEIR OWN WHICH COULD BE MISTAKEN FOR CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SADF. HE ALSO NOTED THE POSSIBILITY OF SWAPO FABRICATING REPORTS FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS. HE DID NOT SAY HE HAD DISCUSSED SUCH POSSIBILITIES WITH FOURIE, BUT INDICATED THAT FOURIE HAD NOTED THE PROXIMITY OF THE ANGOLAN BORDER WHERE THERE MIGHT BE OTHER ACTIVITY.

4. SCOTT'S DEFENSE ADVISER CHECKED THE SITUATION WITH THE SADF CHIEF OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE THIS MORNING AND THE LATTER, AFTER CHECKING WITH HIS SUPERIORS, STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT ALL SADF ELEMENTS WERE OUT OF ZAMBIA. SCOTT RELAYED THIS STATEMENT FOR THE UK HICOM IN LUSAKA TO PASS TO THE GRZ IF IT WISHED.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE FOURIE IS SINCERE, AND WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO PINPOINT THE TIME THAT THE SADF WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OUT OF ZAMBIA, HE CLEARLY  
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THOUGHT THEM TO BE WHEN I SAW HIM ON SUNDAY. IT APPEARS THE SADF CLAIMS THEIR ORIGINAL WITHDRAWAL WAS DELAYED BECAUSE THEY WERE FIRED ON BY SWAPO, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THEY TOOK SOME TIME TO HIT ANOTHER CAMP OR SO, BUT EXACTLY HOW LONG THIS TOOK AND WHAT WAS INVOLVED IS STILL UNKNOWN.  
EDMONDSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, MOPS, WA, SF, ZA, UNSC  
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